



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/975,853	10/12/2001	Michael J. Amdahl	6741.US.01	9852
23492	7590	05/04/2005	EXAMINER	
ROBERT DEBERARDINE ABBOTT LABORATORIES 100 ABBOTT PARK ROAD DEPT. 377/AP6A ABBOTT PARK, IL 60064-6008			LY, CHEYNE D	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		1631		
DATE MAILED: 05/04/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
---------------------------------	-------------	---	---------------------

EXAMINER

ART UNIT PAPER

041905

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

The reply filed on February 03, 2005 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Claims 1 and 7 are indicated as being "(Currently Amended)", however, Applicant does not provide underlining markings for all of the amendments in the claims. For example, claims 1 and 7 have the steps as "a.", "b.", etc., while said steps have been previously recited as "a)", "b)", etc. in the claims, filed October 12, 2001. It is noted that Applicant has amended the recitation of the steps without providing underlining markings to indicate said amendments, which is improper (See MPEP 714 [R-2]). It is noted that the use of internal periods such as "a." is improper because the MPEP states that each claim begins with a capital letter and ends with a period. Periods may not be used elsewhere in the claims except for abbreviations (See MPEP 608.01(m) [R-2]). Further, Applicant uses single brackets in claim 1, line 2, claim 6, lines 1 and 3, claim 7, line 2, and claim 10, line 2 and 3. The MPEP states that double brackets may be used to indicate deleted characters that are five or fewer consecutive characters (See MPEP §714 [R-2]). Therefore, it is not clear whether Applicant intends to use the single brackets to indicate deletion, or the single brackets are part of the claim language.

See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to (571) 272-0547.

Patent applicants with problems or questions regarding electronic images that can be viewed in the Patent Application Information Retrieval system (PAIR) can now contact the USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center (Patent EBC) for assistance. Representatives are available to answer your questions daily from 6 am to midnight (EST). The toll free number is (866) 217-9197. When calling please have your application serial or patent number, the type of document you are having an image problem with, the number of pages and the specific nature of the problem. The Patent Electronic Business Center will notify applicants of the resolution of the problem within 5-7 business days. Applicants can also check PAIR to confirm that the problem has been corrected. The USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center is a complete service center supporting all patent business on the Internet. The USPTO's PAIR system provides Internet-based access to patent application status and history information. It also enables applicants to view the scanned images of their own application file folder(s) as well as general patent information available to the public.

For all other customer support, please call the USPTO Call Center (UCC) at 800-786-9199.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to C. Dune Ly, whose telephone number is (571) 272-0716. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ardin Marschel, Ph.D., can be reached on (571) 272-0718.

C. Dune Ly
4/27/05

CDL

Ardin H. Marschel 4/30/05
ARDIN H. MARSCHEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER